

ANNEX G

Contingency Plans

PURPOSE AND BASIC PLAN

PURPOSE

Discipline, motivation, and initiative are the keys to effectively executing the mission in the absence of orders from leaders or commanders. Tank platoon members can use the contingency plans in this appendix as guidelines for continuing tactical operations whenever they are unable to contact their leaders or higher headquarters.

BASIC FIVE-POINT PLAN

A leader must provide subordinates with a basic five-point contingency plan whenever he detaches elements from the platoon to conduct separate operations. The contingency plan covers the following points:

- Personnel the leader will be taking with him.
- How long the leader will be gone.
- Where the leader will be going (route/objectives).
- What to do if the leader fails to return.
- What to do if the leader makes enemy contact.
- What to do if the remainder of the platoon or another element makes enemy contact.

LOSS OF COMMUNICATIONS

MAINTAINING COMMUNICATIONS

Leaders and TCs must maintain communications at all times while conducting tactical operations. They must be prepared to inform the platoon leader or PSG whenever they determine that a change in the situation or unit status has occurred. If radio contact is lost, use the procedures outlined here to determine the source of possible interference and to reestablish communications.

DETERMINING THE SOURCE OF INTERFERENCE

The key step in reestablishing communications is to determine whether the interference or disruption is internal or external. Use the procedures outlined in the following chart.

STEP	ACTION – Determining source of interference
1	Determine whether ECM are being employed.
2	Prepare and send Green-5 (MIJI) report to higher headquarters as soon as possible (NOTE: For report format, refer to Annex B of this SOP.)
3	<p>Initiate prescribed operator's procedures or conduct troubleshooting procedures based on the appropriate TM. (NOTE: Digital platoons refer to TB 11-2010-326-10 in troubleshooting loss of connectivity.) Use the following basic steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check the ground cable. • Disconnect the antenna cable from the RT. • Identify the type of noise or interference. • Look for variations in the strength of the disturbance by moving the receiver or reorienting the antenna. • Tune receiver above or below the normal frequency (offset by 5 or 10 MHz). • Identify jamming signals, if present. • Employ antijamming measures, if applicable. • Continue to operate; do not reveal in the clear the possibility or success of enemy jamming.
4	<p>If troubleshooting and/or operator's procedures do not reveal the source of the interference, continue to operate and take the following steps as necessary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shift to higher power. • Relocate to higher ground (if tactically feasible). • Change to an alternate frequency only upon receipt of the prescribed code word. • If necessary, go back to the last location where a successful transmission was made.

REESTABLISHING COMMUNICATIONS

After determining the source of interference or disruption, reestablish communications as quickly as possible, using steps listed in the following chart.

NOTE: If loss of communications results from operating outside normal ranges, construct a field-expedient antenna to extend your range. Refer to FKSM 17-187 for details of antenna construction.

STEP	ACTION/GUIDELINE – Reestablishing communications
1	As noted, the platoon must continue operations at all times while taking measures to reestablish communications. Never reveal in the clear the possibility or success of enemy interference or disruption.
2	If the problem proves to be internal, the platoon leader or PSG may move (jump) to another vehicle (wingman).
3	Report the disruption and the tactical situation as soon as possible. (Refer to Annex B of this SOP for information on preparing and sending MIJI reports.)